

MEMORANDUM OF LAW

DATE: July 11, 1994

TO: Joyce Lane, Deputy Director, Elections/Legislative
Services

FROM: City Attorney

SUBJECT: Length of Ballot Proposition Summaries

By letter dated May 20, 1994, the County Registrar of Voters notified the City Clerk that she intends to enforce Section 10327 of the California Elections Code pertaining to word limits on summaries of ballot propositions. By memorandum dated June 1, 1994, you asked the City Attorney whether that California Elections Code section code applies to charter cities. As you correctly point out, this Registrar's stance will affect the City Attorney, who prepares ballot summaries for City ballot measures, more than the City Clerk. Nonetheless, you ask for our advice and guidance on the matter.

In response to your questions, I asked Legal Intern Joan Dawson to research the legal issues presented by your inquiry. Her legal memorandum is attached. I have read and approved it. Although the answer is not crystal clear as to whether California Elections Code section 10327 applies to The City of San Diego, a charter City, the City may as a policy matter wish to accommodate the stated needs of the San Diego County Registrar of Voters.

If you have further questions, please call.

JOHN W. WITT, City Attorney

By

Cristie C. McGuire

Deputy City Attorney

CCM:jrl:014(x043.2)

Attachment

cc Joan Dawson

ML-94-58

TOP

TOP